(a) whether North Korea/South Korea has offered jobs to skilled labour from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to avail of such a facility; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d): The Korean Government had announced a new policy decision to allow entry of limited number of foreign workers in the Korean market. Government of India is examining the matter regarding the possibility of Indian workers going to South Korea for work.

Immunisation

2290. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the family welfare and vaccination programmes are not being carried out efficiently and smoothly in some of the State in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of such states where the aforesaid programme is not being implemented properly; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to run these programmes smoothly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Family Welfare Programme being a centrally sponsored one, is voluntary and its acceptance level depends on factors like effectiveness of State Government set up and of NGOs in the area, Socio-Economic conditions, literacy and status of women in the community. The performance is comparatively weak in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and in North Eastern States.

(d): Keeping in view the wide awareness already created, the effort now is to improve the quality of services for the people. Various programmes have been integrated into one integrated programme designated "Reproductive and Child Health". The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has been replaced by decentralised planning of services at the level of the Primary Health Centre. In the IXth Plan, the States, Districts which are lagging behind are proposed to be given greater attention.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts

2291. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts belonging to ST/OBC lying vacant under his Ministry/department, category-wise; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being gathered and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Homoeopath Doctors

2292. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4630 dated May 5, 1997 regarding Homoeopathy System of Medicine and state:

(a) whether the required information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Information has not yet been received from NCT Government of Delhi.

(c): The concerned authorities have been reminded. As soon as the information is available, it will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

Delayed Projects

2293. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has asked the Central Ministries and State Governments to follow certain criteria for deciding the fate of projects which have been considerably delayed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The guidelines for classification of Plan and Non-Plan expenditure during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) issued to the Central Government, State Governments and UTs inter alia state that projects due for completion by the